

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for purifying exhaust gases, comprising:
an HC adsorption-purifying catalyst including:
an HC adsorbent, and an oxidizing catalyst; and
a three-way catalyst disposed on an upstream side of the flow of exhaust gases with respect to the HC adsorption-purifying catalyst, wherein
a noble metal is loaded higher on a high loading portion disposed on an upstream part of the three-way catalyst than on an ordinary portion of the three-way catalyst.
2. The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein a loading amount of the high loading portion of the three-way catalyst is twice or more of a loading amount of the ordinary portion of the three-way catalyst.
3. The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein the high loading portion of the three-way catalyst is formed within a range of 1/2 of an overall length of the three-way catalyst ranging from an upstream end of the three-way catalyst.
4. The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein the HC adsorption-purifying catalyst includes the HC adsorbent and the oxidizing catalyst with a proportion of the HC adsorbent with respect to the oxidizing catalyst from 5 : 1 to 2 : 3 by volume.